



Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802
NOV 05 2013

Dr. Donald N. Bridges, Chairperson
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Dear Dr. Bridges:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 314 – Planning for Disposition of SRS (Savannah River Site) Canisters

Thank you for your recommendation that the Office of Environmental Management (EM) work with and advise the appropriate organization charged with dispositioning Defense nuclear waste regarding the quantity and “state of readiness” of the SRS canisters and offer use of SRS canisters for a federal repository demonstration program if needed.

We understand and appreciate the SRS CAB’s desire to expedite disposition of SRS waste canisters. As you are aware from the May 21, 2013 briefing by Mr. Christopher Hanson of the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy (NE), NE has the lead role for DOE in implementing the Administration’s “Strategy for the Management and Disposal of High Level Radioactive Waste.”

We accept Recommendation 314, in part. DOE’s Office of Environmental Management, with support from Savannah River Site (SRS), is currently working with the Offices of Nuclear Energy and General Counsel to define how best to plan for implementation of the DOE Strategy. Defense HLW canisters from SRS are part of the inventory of used fuel and high-level waste that is being addressed under the Department’s implementation of the Strategy. The Department’s Strategy is focused on a consent-based siting process and does not currently anticipate a repository demonstration program. Therefore, discussion of using SRS canisters for a demonstration of repository performance is premature at this time.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Terrel J. Spears of my staff at (803) 208-6072.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Moody". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David C. Moody
Manager

Mr. Bridges

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cc:

M. Nielson, (EM-3.2), DOE-HQ
C. Alexander, (EM-3.2), DOE-HQ
J. Williams, (NE), DOE-HQ
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